



3738

Docket No.: 101896-31
(PATENT)

#2
Pursuant
S. Byers
2/2/02

IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

In re Patent Application of:
Michael J. O'Neil

Application No.: 09/955,680 - 1266

Group Art Unit: 3738

Filed: September 19, 2001

Examiner: David J. Isabella

For: ALIGNMENT VERIFICATION DEVICE
AND METHOD OF USE

I hereby certify that this correspondence is being deposited with the U.S. Postal Service with sufficient postage as First Class Mail, in an envelope addressed to: US Patent and Trademark Office, Commissioner for Patents, Washington, DC 20231, on the date shown below.

Dated: January 16, 2002

Signature:

(Ronald E. Cahill)

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INFORMATION DISCLOSURE STATEMENT (IDS)

Commissioner for Patents
Washington, DC 20231

Dear Sir:

Pursuant to 37 CFR 1.56, the attention of the Patent and Trademark Office is hereby directed to the references listed on the attached PTO/SB/08. It is respectfully requested that the information be expressly considered during the prosecution of this application, and that the references be made of record therein and appear among the "References Cited" on any patent to issue therefrom.

This Information Disclosure Statement is filed before the mailing date of a first Office Action on the merits as far as is known to the undersigned.

A copy of each reference on PTO/SB/08 is attached.

A summary/abstract translation of the non-English language reference is enclosed.

The Commissioner is hereby authorized to charge any deficiency in the fees filed, asserted to be filed or which should have been filed herewith (or with any paper hereafter filed in this application by this firm) to our Deposit Account No. 141449, under Order No. 101896-31.

Dated: January 16, 2002

Respectfully submitted,

By 

Ronald E. Cahill

Registration No.: 38,403

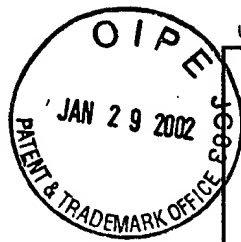
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Boston, Massachusetts 02110-2699

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Attorneys for Applicant



Substitute for form 1449B/PTO INFORMATION DISCLOSURE STATEMENT BY APPLICANT (use as many sheets as necessary)		Complete if Known			
		Application Number	09/955,680-1266		
		Filing Date	September 19, 2001		
		First Named Inventor	Michael J. O'Neil		
		Group Art Unit	3738		
		Examiner Name	David J. Isabella		
Sheet	1	of	5	Attorney Docket Number	101896-31

U.S. PATENT DOCUMENTS					
Exam iner Initial s*	Cite No. ¹	Document Number Number-Kind Code ² (if known)	Publication Date MM-DD-YYYY	Name of Patentee or Applicant of Cited Document	Pages, Columns, Lines, Where Relevant Passages or Relevant Figures Appear
	AA	4,759,769	07/26/1988	Hedman et al.	
	AB	5,246,458	09/21/1993	Graham	
	AC	5,306,309	04/26/1994	Wagner et al.	
	AD	5,431,658	07/11/1995	Moskovich	
	AE	5,458,643	10/17/1995	Oka et al.	
	AF	5,505,732	04/09/1996	Michelson	
	AG	5,674,294	10/07/1997	Bainville et al.	
	AH	5,683,465	11/04/1997	Shinn et al.	
	AI	5,893,889	04/13/1999	Harrington	
	AJ	6,059,790	05/09/2000	Sand et al.	
	AK	4,599,086	07/08/1986	Doty	
	AL	4,743,256	05/10/1988	Brantigan	
	AM	4,878,915	11/07/1989	Brantigan	
	AN	5,397,364	03/14/1995	Kozak et al.	
	AO	5,425,772	06/20/1995	Brantigan	
	AP	5,443,515	08/22/1995	Cohen et al.	
	AQ	5,522,899	06/04/1996	Michelson	
	AR	5,607,424	03/04/1997	Tropiano	
	AS	5,658,335	08/19/1997	Allen	
	AT	5,716,415	02/10/1998	Steffee	
	AU	5,755,798	05/26/1998	Papavero et al.	
	AV	5,766,252	06/16/1998	Henry et al.	
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	AX	5,800,550	09/01/1998	Sertich	
	AY	5,824,094	10/10/1998	Serhan et al.	
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	AA1	5,888,228	03/30/1999	Knothe et al.	
	AB1	5,904,683	05/18/1999	Pohndorf et al.	
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	AI1	6,093,205	07/25/2000	McLeod et al.	
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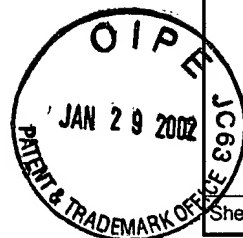
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Complete if Known

Application Number	09/955,680-1266
Filing Date	September 19, 2001
First Named Inventor	Michael J. O'Neil
Group Art Unit	3738
Examiner Name	David J. Isabella
Attorney Docket Number	101896-31

AT1	4,685,919	08/11/1987	Niwa et al.	
AU1	4,834,757	05/30/1989	Brantigan	
AV1	4,950,296	08/21/1990	McIntyre	
AW1	5,053,049	10/01/1991	Campbell	
AX1	5,092,893	03/03/1992	Smith	
AY1	5,192,327	03/09/1993	Brantigan	
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AI2	5,609,635	03/11/1997	Michelson	
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AK2	5,658,337	08/19/1997	Kohrs et al.	
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AS2	5,776,199	07/07/1998	Michelson	
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AH3	4,444,184	04/24/1984	Oretorp	
AI3	4,545,374	10/08/1985	Jacobson	
AJ3	4,660,287	04/28/1987	Decker	
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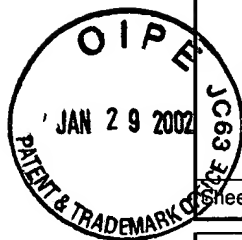
Complete if Known

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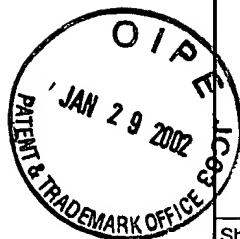
AN3	4,997,432	03/05/1991	Keller	
AO3	5,019,081	05/28/1991	Watanabe	
AP3	5,020,519	06/04/1991	Hayes et al.	
AQ3	5,055,104	10/08/1991	Ray	
AR3	5,059,194	10/22/1991	Michelson	
AS3	5,122,130	06/16/1992	Keller	
AT3	5,213,112	05/25/1993	Niwa et al.	
AU3	5,254,128	10/19/1993	Mesa	
AV3	5,292,329	03/08/1994	Werner	
AW3	5,306,309	04/26/1994	Wagner et al.	
AX3	5,314,477	05/24/1994	Marnay	
AY3	5,403,337	04/04/1995	Platts	
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AA4	5,431,658	07/11/1995	Moskovich	
AB4	5,431,672	07/11/1995	Cote et al.	
AC4	5,443,514	08/22/1995	Steffee	
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AW4	5,730,751	03/24/1998	Dillon et al.	
AX4	5,752,968	05/19/1998	Jolly et al.	
AY4	5,766,252	06/16/1998	Henry et al.	
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AB5	5,792,162	08/11/1998	Jolly et al.	
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AD5	5,827,309	10/27/1998	Jolly et al.	
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Attorney Docket Number	101896-31

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AH5	5,888,224	03/30/1999	Beckers et al.
AI5	5,899,901	05/04/1999	Middleton
AJ5	5,908,432	06/01/1999	Pan
AK5	5,957,927	09/28/1999	Magee et al.
AL5	6,004,326	12/21/1999	Castro et al.
AM5	6,015,419	01/18/2000	Strome et al.
AN5	6,022,364	02/08/2000	Flumene et al.
AO5	6,042,582	03/28/2000	Ray
AP5	6,063,088	05/16/2000	Winslow
AQ5	6,066,174	05/23/2000	Farris
AR5	6,080,155	06/27/2000	Michelson
AS5	6,083,225	07/04/2000	Winslow et al.
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AU5	6,096,038	08/01/2000	Michelson
AV5	6,113,602	09/05/2000	Sand
AW5	6,117,174	09/12/2000	Nolan
AX5	3,486,505	12/30/1969	Morrison
AY5	4,545,374	10/08/1985	Jacobson
AZ5	4,898,161	02/06/1990	Grunde
AA6	5,020,519	06/04/1991	Hayes et al.
AB6	5,800,438	09/01/1998	Tuke et al.
AC6	5,935,151	08/10/1999	Broughton et al.
AD6	5,951,564	09/14/1999	Schroder et al.
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AF6	6,159,215	12/12/2000	Urbahns et al.

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FOREIGN PATENT DOCUMENTS

Examiner Initials*	Cite No. ¹	Foreign Patent Document	Publication Date MM-DD-YYYY	Name of Patentee or Applicant of Cited Document	Pages, Columns, Lines, Where Relevant Passages or Relevant Figures Appear	T ⁶
		Country Code ² -Number ⁴ -Kind Code ⁵ (if known)				
	BA	EP 0538183	04/21/1993			
	BB	FR 2703580	10/14/1994			
	BC	WO 9426213	11/24/1994			
	BD	WO 9508306	03/30/1995			
	BE	WO 9817209	04/30/1998			
	BF	WO 9855052	12/10/1998			
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		Examiner Name	David J. Isabella
Sheet 5 of 5	Attorney Docket Number	101896-31	

OTHER PRIOR ART - NON PATENT LITERATURE DOCUMENTS

Examiner Initials	Cite No. ¹	Include name of the author (in CAPITAL LETTERS), title of the article (when appropriate), title of the item (book, magazine, journal, serial, symposium, catalog, etc), date, page(s), volume-issue number(s), publisher, city and/or country where published.	T ²
	CA	Depuy, "Keystone Graft Instruments Anterior Cervical Surgical Technique," <i>Technical Manual</i> , Motech	
Examiner Signature			Date Considered

*EXAMINER: Initial if reference considered, whether or not citation is in conformance with MPEP 609. Draw line through citation if not in conformance and not considered. Include copy of this form with next communication to applicant.

¹Applicant's unique citation designation number (optional). ²Applicant is to place a check mark here if English language Translation is attached.

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